Representation from association of hirers of private and public telephone call offices, Madras

1312. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a representation dated 27th July, 1991 has been received by the Government from Association of Hirers of private and Public Telephone Call Offices (PPCOs), Madras;

(b) if so, what are their grievances;

(c) whether Government are considering their request sympathetically; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MNISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE OF MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The representation is mainly regarding:-

— Reduction in minimum Guarantee amount for public Call Offices (PCOs). and

— Conversion of PCOs into private telephones.

(c) and (d) The representationists are being replied to.

Cases against press reporters in Haryana

1313. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of cases registered against Press Reporters in Haryana from 1987 till date;

(b) the number of Press Reporters who have complained of harassment in Haryana since 1987 till date, particularly during the course of covering bye-elections in Mahem and Darba Kalan Constituancies in Haryana;

(c) whether Government are aware of the attempts of curbs on Press Freedom in Haryana; if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) what steps Government have taken on a memorandum submitted by the Delhi Union of Journalists on 8th January, 1991 to the Prime Minister Sirsa episode?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c) 'Public orders' and 'Police' are State subjects. No information with regard to the cases registered against the Press or the complaints by the Press is compiled and monitored by the Central Government.

(d) The Delhi Union of Journalists had submitted a memorandum to the then Prime Minister in January, 1991 on Sirsa episode. Based on the report received from the Chief Minnster of Haryana, a reply was sent to the Delhi Union of Journalists by the Prime Minister's Office in February, 1991.

Vacation of premises at Ganesh Chandra Avenue, Calcutta

1314. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of post had taken a decision to vacate the premises situated at 2-B, Ganesh Chandra Avenue, Calcutta-700013 which was given on lease to postal Life Insurance, Calcutta;

(b) if so, whether said decision has been communicated by the Department of Post on 26th February, 1991 to the owner of the said building;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when the decision to vacate the said building is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.